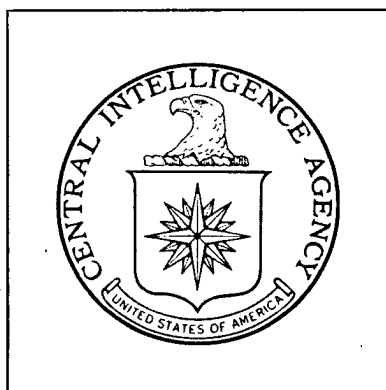


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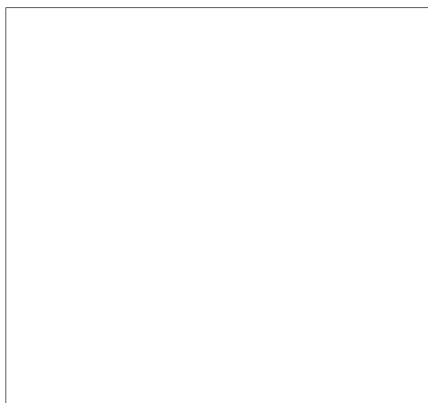
**DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE**

**Industrial Facilities
(Non-Military)**

Basic Imagery Interpretation Report

Tai-yuan Phosphate Fertilizer Plant Shansi

Tai-yuan, China



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RCS 13/0117/69

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25X1CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
Imagery Analysis Service

RCS - 13/0117/69

INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME		COUNTRY	
Tai-yuan Phosphate Fertilizer Plant Shansi		CH	
UTM COORDINATES	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES	COMIREX NO.	WAC-PIC NO.
49SFM312868	37-49-46N 112-29-13E		0382-12-R2
MAP REFERENCE			
15th RTS. USATC 200, Sheet M0382-13HL, 3rd ed., Jun 67, Scale 1:200,000			
(SECRET)			
LATEST IMAGERY USED		NEGATION DATE (If required)	
		Not Required	

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ABSTRACT

The main fertilizer production facilities of this plant appeared complete and in operation when first seen on photography in 1962. The major product is superphosphate, some of which is probably ammoniated.

The acid storage capacity of the plant was doubled between September 1963 and March 1964. Construction of a new unidentified processing area has been under way since 1966.

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INTRODUCTION

The Tai-yuan Phosphate Fertilizer Plant Shansi is the northernmost plant in the Tai-yuan Chemical Combine. It is located approximately 4.7 nautical miles (nm) southwest of the center of Tai-yuan Complex.

The Tai-yuan Chemical Plant [REDACTED], which probably furnishes sulfuric acid for the phosphate fertilizer plant, is located 1.9 nm to the south-southwest. The Tai-yuan Chemical Fertilizer Plant [REDACTED] [REDACTED] which probably furnishes liquid or aqueous ammonia, is located 3.2 nm south-southwest of the phosphate plant.

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25X1**BASIC DESCRIPTION**Physical Features

The phosphate fertilizer plant is located in a rectangular, walled area which measures approximately 2,950 by 1,100 feet and occupies about 75 acres. The plant is both road and rail served.

Operational Functions

The major products of this plant are phosphate fertilizers. The specific production areas and major facilities are depicted and annotated on the line drawing (Figure 3).

Superphosphate is produced using phosphate ore, which is stockpiled along the rail spur and stored in silos, and sulfuric acid, which is shipped in by rail from the nearby chemical plant.

There is evidence that a portion of the superphosphate is being ammoniated. Two distinct types of rail cars have been observed near the acid handling area, and a probable ammonia pipeline runs from it to the product crushing, bagging, and storage building. Atop this building are vents which suggest further processing and adjacent to it is a buried tank for possible ammonia storage (Item 8). The nearby Tai-yuan Chemical Fertilizer Plant has a possible liquid ammonia storage and shipping facility which could supply ammonia for this plant.

Pipelines can be traced from the acid handling and storage area to a new unidentified processing area under construction (Area C). This suggests that either liquid ammonia, sulfuric acid, or both will be used in the process.

Construction Chronology

The main fertilizer production components appeared complete and in operation when initially observed on photography of June 1962. Construction of the ore receiving and preparation building was in mid-stage on September 1963 imagery and was completed prior to October 1964. Three additional tanks were erected in the acid handling and storage section between September 1963 and March 1964, bringing the total to six.

No significant changes appeared in the plant again until March 1966, when modifications were observed in the steam plant and a new building was being constructed in the unidentified processing area. By July 1966, work was under way on the new buildings across the railroad tracks east of the acid handling and storage section. Between July 1966 and June 1967, further new construction took place in the unidentified processing area, and several new buildings were being added in the northwest corner of the plant. New construction in these two areas continued through November 1968.

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Production Activity

The fertilizer plant appeared to be in operation in 1962, the earliest coverage. Since that time, heavy rail traffic and large stockpiles of raw material along the railroad tracks have been observed on several missions, indicating a high level of production. It did not appear that the unidentified processing area under construction was operational on the latest coverage of November 1968.

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REFERENCES

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Maps

15th RTS. US Air Target Chart 200, Sheet M0382-13HL, 3rd edition,
June 1967, Scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

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Documents

1. CIA. PIR 75036, Tai-yuan Chemical Fertilizer Plants (Tai-yuan
Chemical Combine) Tai-yuan, China, September 1966
(TOP SECRET RUFF)

Requirement

EXSUBCOM - BR-N/002-69

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